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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/176,315 10/22/98 MAEDA

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022850 MMC2/1220
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EXAMINER

CRANE, S
ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2811
DATE MAILED:

12/20/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/176,315

Applicant(s)
Maeda et al.

Examiner
Sara W. Crane

Group Art Unit
2811



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 5, 2000

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) 17, 20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 18 is/are rejected.

☒ Claim(s) 6-16, 19 is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-16 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1-5 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwamatsu et al. (High-Speed 0.5 μm . . .) in view of Agari (JA 6-224302) and Chen et al.

The Iwamatsu reference teaches each of the structural elements of claims 1 and 2, including an SOI MOS transistor having a fixed potential at the body contact (see i.e. figure 1 and page 575, column 1, lines 12-15). A clock would be inherent in the teaching, or at least obvious, because signal must be clocked through the device at some frequency. The abstract teaches a maximum operation frequency of 2.1 GHz. Agari teaches in the abstract to design a semiconductor device by minimizing RC delay from the resistance value and the capacitance value at each wiring part. Chen et al. teaches at column 7, lines 29-34, to dope the body of an SOI MOS transistor minimize the RC time constant due to the body link. It would have been obvious

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to design the Iwamatsu device using a method which minimizes the RC time constant of each wiring part, as taught by Agari, and in particular of the body contact as taught by Chen et al., in order to minimize delay as taught by Agari. It would be obvious to minimize the RC time constant as compared to the period of the clock signal, because the RC time constant is a measure of how quickly signal decay takes place, and if the signal decays greatly during the time period of the signal, the device will not function.

Conclusion

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 and 18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to S. Crane, whose telephone number is (703) 308-4894.

The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Sara W. Crane
Examiner
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